



PUBLIC NOTICE

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FCC ANNOUNCES FIVE-STAGE NATIONAL FILING WINDOW FOR LOW POWER FM BROADCAST STATION APPLICATIONS

The Mass Media Bureau announces the establishment of a five-stage national filing window for 100 watt low power FM (LPFM) applications. The five-stage filing window approach is designed to ensure the expeditious implementation of the LPFM service and to promote the efficient use of Commission resources.

The FCC has divided the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the remaining jurisdictions into five groups, each comprised of ten states and at least one other jurisdiction. All LPFM applications proposing to locate transmitters in a particular state or jurisdiction must file in the filing window for that state or jurisdiction. Applicants in states and jurisdictions in each of the five groups will be permitted to file LPFM applications during a designated five-day filing window.

The five groups are as follows:

- I: Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, Puerto Rico, Virginia, Wyoming
- II: American Samoa, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Missouri, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wisconsin
- III: Alabama, Arkansas, Guam, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Washington
- IV: Arizona, Florida, Iowa, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, West Virginia
- V: Alaska, California, District of Columbia, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Mariana Islands, Maryland, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Utah

On March 27, 2000, the FCC will select through a random process the first application group. The selection will be held on March 27, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Meeting Room, 445 12th St. S.W., Room TW-C305.

The dates of the first filing window will be announced by Public Notice at least 30 days prior to the first day of the window.

The order of the filing windows in which the four subsequent groups' applications will be accepted will also be determined on March 27, 2000. Tentatively, filing windows will follow each other at three-month intervals. However, the Bureau may reduce or increase the amount of time between filing windows as we gain experience with this new service and filing approach. The dates of the four subsequent filing windows will be announced by Public Notice at least 30 days prior to the first day of each window.

The composition of each group is designed to ensure the equitable distribution of LPFM station licenses in three ways. First, every part of the country is represented in each group. Every state or jurisdiction will have a one in five chance of being selected for the first filing window. Second, each group is balanced by market size in that each group contains several of the top fifteen markets. Finally, all of the states in each group are separated geographically, thus eliminating the potential for conflicting proposals across state lines.

By the Chief, Mass Media Bureau